



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Richard S. Cordrey
Secretary of Finance

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DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUDGET HEARING REMARKS

Dover – Below is an excerpt from remarks made by Secretary of Finance Richard S. Cordrey during his Fiscal Year 2009 budget hearing in Dover this afternoon.

Madame Director, Mr. Deputy Controller General, staff and members of the public. I come before you today to present my budget request for FY 2009. But before I do that, I would like to make a few statements concerning the recent developments that have been in the media surrounding the Abandoned Property refund section of the Division of Revenue. Let me begin by stating that the result of the recent investigations I ordered **must and will** have the following outcomes. First, review and improvement in the refund claim process that gives the Division of Revenue and the citizens of Delaware complete confidence in that payment process. Secondly, a complete and thorough criminal investigation of this matter by the proper law enforcement agencies whose job it is to arrest and prosecute any and all individuals who were involved in any illegal activity. Completion of each of these tasks by the appropriate people I have engaged will guarantee success and provide accurate information for the public. I would hope that these goals are shared by everyone including our elected officials and the citizens of this state and losing sight of such could only jeopardize their attainment.

Also, I would like to reemphasize, which I do every chance I get, that the Department of Finance employees are some of the finest and most professional group of people I have had the pleasure of working with whether it is in the public or private sector. The reputation of all the employees not associated with any illegal activity that may be uncovered **must not** be compromised throughout this process.

Finally, it must be stated that the process of allowing the public to report wrongful activity does work and should be encouraged. The Auditor's tip line along with the Division of Revenue's tip line (302) 577- 8958 or via our website prove their value each and every day.